IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the abstract as follows:

For a pistol having a hollow pistol grip (2)-in which a magazine-(3) for rounds which is insertable from below is held, a magazine catch is to be provided which is realeasable from either side, offers a maximum of safety, is user friendly and has a minimum of relatively few parts. The magazine (3)-has a lug (12)-on its front wall; in the front part of the pistol grip (3)-a sliding block (8)-is arranged so as to be displaceable in transverse direction, which is held in its middle position by at least one spring (9, 10), in which position the lug (12)-rests on the sliding block-(8). The sliding block (8)-has a vertical groove (21, 22) on either side of the lug (12), which can be brought into the path of movement of the lug (12) during insertion of the magazine-(3) by displacement of the sliding block-(8) in either one of the two directions.